DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0672/158461.01
Application No.: 09/995,224
Office Action Dated: August 4, 2006

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application, with claims 1, 12 and 21 being the independent claims.

In the Official Action, dated August 4, 2006, claims 1-4, 10-12, and 15-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over US Publication No. 2002/0069223 A1 (Goodisman) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0123912 A1 (Subramanian). Claims 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Goodisman in view of Subramanian and further in view of US Patent No. 6,222,537 (Smith). Claims 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Goodisman in view of Subramanian and further in view of US Patent No. 6,122,647 (Horowitz). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Goodisman in view of Subramanian and further in view of US Publication No. 2002/0010769 A1 (Kippenhan). Claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Goodisman in view of Subramanian and further in view of US Publication No. 2003/0080986 (Baird).

Claims 5, 7, and 8 have been amended to correct typographical or grammatical errors.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Upon entry of the above amendment, claim 1 will recite:

> a *client side* recognizer embodied in at least one computer readable medium, said recognizer cooperating with said helper object to compare said content with a predefined list of key-phrases and/or syntactic rules for recognizing key-phrase candidates. (emphasis added)

The Office Action alleges that Goodisman describes a "recognizer, or pattern matcher, that cooperates with a linkify engine or helper object to compare the content with a predefined list of key-phrases and/or syntactic rules for recognizing key-phrase candidates."

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Applicant proposes to amend claim 1 to recite that the recognizer and helper objects are client side objects. Support for the amendment can be found in the present application, for example, on page 6 lines 21-23.

Applicants respectfully submit that Goodisman teaches a linkify engine that does not operate on the client side. See, for example, Goodisman Figure 3 and Page 5 paragraph 0050 ("linkify engine 104 can process requests from clients 42"). In contrast, it is an object of the present invention to "to ameliorate the shortcomings of the current approaches to the incorporation and execution of associated links by offering a system and methods that rely on client-side processing." Claim 1 now clarifies that the recognizer and helper objects are client side objects, which emphasizes one of the inventive features of the present invention.

For at least the above reasons, applicants submit that claim 1 of the application is in condition for allowance. Claims 12 and 21, as amended, patentably define over Goodisman at least for similar reasoning as that described with respect to claim 1. Moreover, inasmuch as claims 2-11, 13-20, and 22-23 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 12, or 21, Applicants submit that they also patentably define over Goodisman at least for the reason set forth above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is thus earnestly requested.
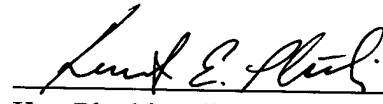
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CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Office Action, and submit that Claims 1-23 of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited.

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